

REMARKS

This paper is filed in response to the Office Action mailed November 15, 2006.

Following the amendments above, claims 13-18 and 20-25 are pending in the present application. Claims 1-20 are rejected under the judicially-created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting to U.S. Patent No. 6,801,008 to Jacobus et al ("Jacobus"). Claims 1-7, 9, 10, 12, and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 4,278,920 to Ruoff, Jr. ("Ruoff") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,103,404 to McIntosh ("McIntosh"). Claims 8 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ruoff in view of McIntosh and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,038,089 to Szakaly ("Szakaly").

Claims 13-18 are allowed. Claim 20 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Applicant has canceled claims 1-12 and 19. Applicant has amended claim 20, and added claims 21-25. Reconsideration and allowance of all claims is respectfully requested in light of the amendments above and the remarks below.

Double Patenting – Claims 1-20

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of claims 1-20 under the judicially-created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting to Jacobus. Claims 1-12 and 19 have been canceled, thus rendering their rejection moot.

In response to the rejection of claims 13-18 and 20, Applicant submits herewith a Terminal Disclaimer to Jacobus.

Ruoff – § 103(a) – Claims 1-7, 9, 10, 12, and 19

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of claims 1-7, 9, 10, 12, and 19 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ruoff in view of McIntosh. Applicant has canceled claims 1-7, 9, 10, 12, and 19, thus rendering their rejection moot. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner withdraw the rejection of claims 1-7, 9, 10, 12, and 19.

Ruoff in view of Szakaly – § 103(a) – Claims 8 and 11

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of claims 8 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ruoff in view of Szakaly. Applicant has canceled claims 8 and 11, thus rendering their rejection moot. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner withdraw the rejection of claims 8 and 11.

Claims 13-18 - Allowed

Applicant appreciates the allowance of claims 13-18.

Claim 20 - Objection

Applicant appreciates the examiner's statement that claim 20 would be allowed if rewritten in independent form including the limitations of the base claim. Applicant has amended claim 20 to include the limitations of claim 19. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner withdraw the objection to claim 20.

Claims 21-25 - New

Applicant has added dependent claims 21-25. Since claims 21-25 depend from and further limit claim 20, which has been allowed by the examiner in independent form, Applicant submits that claims 21-25 are allowable. Applicant respectfully requests the allowance of dependent claims 21-25.

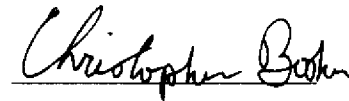
CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully asserts that in view of the amendments and remarks above, all pending claims are allowable and Applicant respectfully requests the allowance of all claims.

Should the Examiner have any comments, questions, or suggestions of a nature necessary to expedite the prosecution of the application, or to place the case in condition for allowance, the Examiner is courteously requested to telephone the undersigned at the number listed below.

Date: September 14, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Christopher Bosken". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and registration number.

Christopher Bosken
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